



# The Bookworm Ages 0-2

From your Local Library and Idaho's Read to Me Program

## It's never too early!

Thanks to research over the last decade, we now know much more about how babies develop their early language skills. Here are some facts:

- Babies begin to learn language from birth. Reading aloud exposes children to the sounds of speech.
- Children who are spoken to and read to develop into better readers.
- Reading aloud to babies and toddlers lays the foundation for learning to read.

### *When You're Reading With Your Baby...*

#### **From birth to 3 months, your baby:**

- Prefers books with bright colors and designs.
- Looks at pictures but might not want to touch the book.
- Gazes at you when you sing songs or nursery rhymes.

#### **At 4 to 6 months, your baby:**

- Explores books by putting them in her mouth.
- Investigates books by patting, grabbing and pulling pages.
- May coo and babble at you when you read.

#### **At 6 to 12 months, your baby:**

- Babbles at some of the pictures.
- Can turn the pages with your help.
- Plays with books like toys.

#### **At 12 to 18 months, your child:**

- Can hold or carry books without your help.
- Turns pages and looks at books by herself.
- Uses his index finger to point at the illustrations.

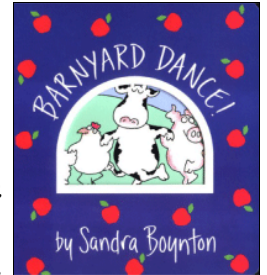
#### **At 18 to 24 months, your child:**

- May say some of the words and phrases in familiar books.
- Pretends to read.
- Wants to hear a favorite story over and over.
- May like to carry favorite books around.

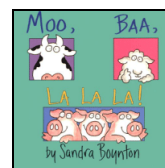
## Book of the Month

### ***Barnyard Dance!*, written by Sandra Boynton**

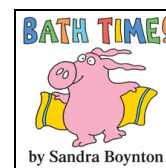
Grab your partner, because it's time to do-si-do in the barnyard with the spirited animal crew in this book. The rhythm of the text, the rhyming words, and the funny characters will have you and your child laughing and stomping to the beat!



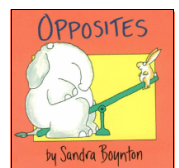
Author/cartoonist Sandra Boynton has written several books for young children. If your child enjoyed *Barnyard Dance!* check out some of her other board books at your local library:



*Moo, Baa, La La La*



*Bath Time!*



*Opposites*

Here are some additional barnyard books your young child may enjoy:

*Barnyard Banter*, Denise Fleming

*Peek-a-Moo*, Marie Torres Cimarusti

*Big Red Barn*, Margaret Wise Brown

*Who Said Moo?* Harriet Ziefert

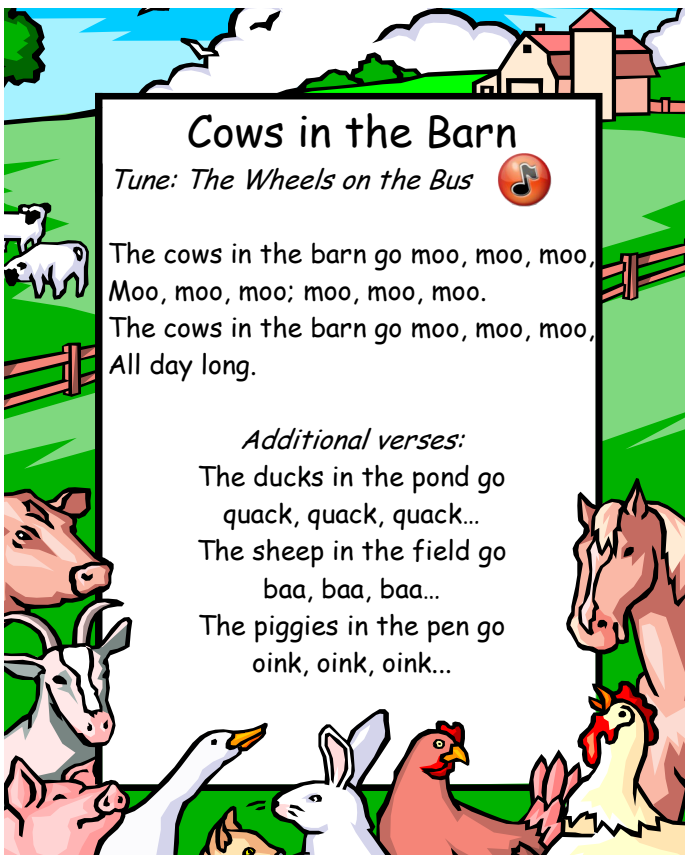
*This Little Chick*, John Lawrence

## More fun with *Barnyard Dance*...

**Movin' and Groovin'...** Stand up and act out the rhyme with your child, or use dolls/puppets to act out the rhyme together. Your child will love to stomp, clap, bounce, twirl and strut along as you read the story, and what a great way to get some sillies out together!

**Talk about it...** After reading the story, go back and ask your child to point to animals on a page. "Where's the cow? (help your child point with her finger or hand) There it is! What does a cow say? That's right, Moo!" You can do this activity with other barnyard books, too!

**Seeing first words...** If your child can point to the cow on the page, show them the word "cow." Repeat with other animals. Begin showing your child other words, such as the name of the cereal on the box, words on food packaging, such as "milk" or "eggs," or his or her first name.



## Action Rhyme

### Eight Baby Pigs

*(Use your fingers to represent the pigs)*

Two little pigs lived in a pen,  
*(hold up thumbs)*

Each had four babies and that made ten.  
*(wiggle fingers on both hands)*

These four babies were black and white,  
*(wiggle fingers on one hand)*

These four babies were black as night.  
*(wiggle fingers on other hand)*

All eight babies loved to play,  
*(wiggle all fingers)*

And they rolled and they rolled in the mud all day!  
*(roll hands)*



### What your library can do for you...

Most libraries offer special programs for children, free of charge. Storytimes for preschool children, or lapsit programs for babies and toddlers, allow opportunities for "together time" with fun activities and stories. Ask your librarian about the programs offered at your local library.

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